

HOWITZERS OFF FOR LONG MARCH

Cheered by Large Crowd, Soldiers Leave by Rail for Staunton.

TRIP DOWN VALLEY WILL BEGIN TO-DAY

Government, Much Interested, Sends Officer of Regular Army to Accompany Battery—Route Lies Through Historic Battlefields, Where Stonewall Jackson Led Men.

FULLY equipped for the long march down the Valley of Virginia, the Richmond Howitzers left the Chesapeake and Ohio depot on their special train last night at 10:10 o'clock, bound for Staunton, from which place the journey of foot begins. Crowds of people filled the station and pushed to the very doors of the train, cheering and waving handkerchiefs until the rear lights of the Pullman disappeared around the curve. Save for the absence of arms, the cannons presented a fine appearance, being dressed in the regulation khaki and carrying, each man, his own tent and knapsack. There were present also several "war correspondents" to chronicle the peaceful invasion of the country which, but only forty years ago was the scene of a series of bloody battles.

Followed by Crowd. The battery had orders to present itself at the army at 9 o'clock sharp last night. Several minutes before that time every man was there, and ready to fall in. The inevitable crowd had also gathered, and choked the doorway for some time before the battery made its appearance. A short preliminary drill was indulged in before the men were taken out to the street. The tramp of many feet on the floor of the drill room was a signal to the waiting crowd, which yelled and called the boys out.

Promptly at 9 o'clock the battery was formed in front of the army, and the trip was begun. The line of march to the depot lay along Eighth Street to Broad, down Broad to Ninth and to Main, thence to the depot. At every cross street the cheering crowd increased and fell in behind the soldiers. When the battery crossed Broad, the mass of people was so dense that for a few minutes all the cars and wagons had to stop, motor-men and drivers waiting patiently and good-naturedly until they could move ahead without running over someone. The only halt on the way to the depot was at the store of Mr. T. C. Sublett, at Thirteenth and Main Streets, where, at his request, Captain Myers stopped the battery and section by section marched the men in, each getting a cooling drink and a good cigar. Mr. Sublett is one of the most enthusiastic friends of the battery in the city. His brother is now a member of the Howitzers, and many of his people fought with the historic command during the war. His courtesy was much appreciated by the men who gave him three rousing cheers as they marched away down the street.

Scene at the Depot. At the depot ranks were again broken, and the unit formed in the arm of civilians, which was too large to be let into the sheds. The favored few—close friends and relatives of the soldiers—were enough to make walking along the platform a rather difficult matter.

About five minutes was spent here in good-bys, which, however, bore but slight resemblance to the proverbial "Soldier's Farewell." Every one was laughing and cheering with the same heart. Then came the bugle call, and a second afterward the men tumbled into the coaches and the train moved out of the sheds. This was where the crowd broke loose and cheered again and again as the sound of the bugle partly drowned the roar of the train dwindling away in the distance.

The train consisted of three day coaches for the men, to the rear of which was attached the Pullman "Ambassador" for the officers and visitors. Next to the engine was a flat car containing the provision wagons and two wagonettes for the visitors. Behind this were two cars carrying the horses and mules.

Last night was spent on the cars. Early this morning the march of 150 miles down the Valley of Virginia began in the City War which was commenced from Staunton. This section, which is now one of the most beautiful and productive parts of the State, was, during the war, the scene of some of the hardest fighting. The march down the Valley through the mountain gaps to Alexandria. The Howitzers expect to reach their destination a week from Tuesday. It all goes well.

Government Interested. The trip has created much interest, not only throughout Virginia, but in other States. The War Department was quick to recognize its value, and has sent Captain Kilrain, of the regular army, who is stationed at Newport News, to accompany the battery. He arrived in the city yesterday at noon, and was fitted up at once with a Howitzer uniform. In a recent letter to Captain Myers concerning the trip, Captain Kilrain complimented him on his plan, and said that if all the volunteer military organizations of the country would adopt the idea it would mean that the volunteers would equal for discipline the men of the regular army.

The Stonewall Camp, Confederate Veterans, will tender a reception to the battery soon after its arrival. Several hours will be spent in viewing the places of historic interest in the city. The chaplain of the battery, the Rev. Dr. James P. Smith, who will accompany it along the entire march, will preach to the men in the historic Old Stone Church. This is about eight miles from Staunton, and it is thought that the battery will arrive there about dinner time.

Bolides Dr. Smith, a number of "war-time" Howitzers will occupy the wagons along with the invited guests and newspaper correspondents. Others

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CLANS GATHER IN CONVENTION CITY

Chicago Ablaze With Light and Buzzing With Excitement.

RIVAL FACTIONS SEEK TO OUTDO ONE ANOTHER

Republicans of National Prominence Leading Delegations in March to the West—Question of Vice-Presidency Most Important Issue. Quay Resolution.

CHICAGO, June 13.—The tramp of convention hosts is now fairly under way, and to-night Chicago is beginning to throb with the confusion and excitement of arriving throngs, some with banners and bands and gaily-uniformed marchers, others made up of State delegations with their conspicuous leaders and their cohorts of straggling followers and shouters, others of the friends and admirers of the various presidential candidates, and still others and again others of the curious onlookers drawn from every section of the country, including many of the representatives of foreign governments who have come to witness this national spectacle.

Thousands Pouring In. All day special and regular trains have emptied thousands of strangers into this presidential Mecca. The effect of the influx is seen to-night in the surging street crowds, the growing animation of the choked and smoky hotel lobbies, the strains of music and the swell of oratory from some of the headquarters of candidates, and the bounteous hospitality which these headquarters are beginning to dispense. And yet this foregathering of the Chicago Convention of 1908 has already established a record for unusual calm and tranquillity, for measured by the din and turmoil, the scenes of delirious excitement and the spirit of die-in-the-latest-ditch which has marked some historic gatherings of the past, this invading army of delegates and spectators is a most solid and unemotional body.

But it is none the less an army, with new columns coming to the front hourly, and with the prospect of plenty of burrah and fireworks ahead to animate the leaders and stir the blood of the onlookers.

A drizzling rain to-night, after a hot, muggy day, tended to restrain the outbursts of enthusiasm, but there is a promise of good convention weather ahead.

On the Ground.

The centres of interest to-day have been the arriving delegations, with many of the leaders of national prominence, and a host of others, among the notable convention figures to arrive were Don Cameron, former United States Senator from Pennsylvania, who has not attended a national convention since the year 1860, when he stood with Roscoe Conkling and John A. Logan as the leaders of the third term movement in the interest of General Grant; Henry Taft, brother of the Secretary, Senator Chauncey Depew, who came to the convention from the Philadelphia convention with his speech seconding the nomination of Roosevelt for Vice-President; Representative Senoeno E. Payne, of New York, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, who bears on his ample shoulders a good deal of the burden of future tariff revision; United States Senator Long, of Kansas, who is said to have the Dolliver vice-presidential boom in his pocket; James A. Sherman, of Colorado, and Timothy L. Woodruff, of New York, both receptive vice-presidential possibilities; ex-Governor Yates, of Illinois, who is willing to consider his return to the gubernatorial chair and a host of others notable in the political world.

The rank and file of the State delegations are rather late in coming and organizing as compared with previous conventions, but most of the States have already sent their delegates. New York's delegation arrived by special train at noon; a considerable part of the Pennsylvania delegation was added to that already here, and other State contingents straggled in during the afternoon. Among the prominent members of the Pittsburgh, a Knox organization with handsome uniforms and gay colored umbrellas, marched through the streets and gave a foretaste of the scenes to come at Headquarters.

The Taft headquarters are divided between three of the large hotels, but the storm centre of Taft activity is in the Auditorium Annex. Here a series of parlors has been made gorgeous with banners and bunting and electric lights, while the genial face of the Secretary of War smiles down from every wall. As yet, however, the Taft headquarters have not been formally opened to the public, and the Taft movement has its chief impulsion in the quiet councils in an upper chamber of the hotel, where Arthur I. Vorys, ex-Governor of Myron T. Herrick, and Charles P. Taft, of Cincinnati, another brother of the Secretary, hold their deliberations. The Hughes headquarters took on an added brilliancy at the Auditorium to-day. A huge portrait of the Governor was mounted aloft in the hotel lobby, topped by a sunburst in red, white and blue, with "Hughes" in electric letters two feet high just below. The Cannon men were somewhat envious of these two-foot letters, and to-night "Joe Cannon" is blazing forth from the front of the Auditorium in letters ten feet high. The Cannon headquarters present a picture of genuine convention enthusiasm to-night, as the doors have been thrown open for the reception of the public. The music of a brass band and a patriotic air echo through the corridors, and the cheering of the delegates is heard as they are expounding the virtues of "Uncle Joe," and sumptuous good cheer is being passed around to all who will partake.

The Knox and Fairbanks headquarters are also in the Auditorium Annex, each resplendent with color and electricity, but the real enthusiasm awaits the arrival of the delegates.

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POWERS OUT AFTER YEARS IN PRISON

Governor Willson Pardons Him and Howard, Charged With Goebel's Murder.

HALF MILLION SIGN PETITION FOR PARDON

Kentucky Executive, in Statement Issued, Tells of Pressure Brought to Bear on Him. End of One of America's Famous Cases.

FRANKFORT, KY., June 13.—By announcing today the pardon of Caleb Powers and James Howard, Governor Willson closed the last chapter of one of Kentucky's noted cases, in which the people of all sections of the United States have formally expressed their interest by signing petitions for clemency.

History of Case. In the closing days of January, eight years ago, while the contest of William Goebel for the gubernatorial seat, occupied by the late Governor Bevel, was being heard, Goebel was shot, dying later from his wounds. The shot was believed to have come from a half-opened window of the Secretary of State's office, and as Caleb Powers was then Secretary of State, suspicion fell on him, and his arrest followed. Four times has Powers been put on trial for his life on the charge of complicity in the murder, three trials resulting in conviction and sentence to death, being the penalty in two. On the fourth trial, which came after the case had been carried to the United States court, and had finally been appealed to the Supreme Court, which turned it back to the State court, the case was agreed, and thereupon the efforts for a pardon for Powers, as well as for James Howard, who had been convicted some years ago on charges of complicity, were renewed.

Many thousands of signatures of people of all parties and all sections were appended to the petitions that poured in on Governor Willson, who for several weeks has been considering the case. His decision was made known to-day in the signing of a formal statement of the pardon and his reasons therefor.

Many Signed It. After reciting the fact that the application for pardon had been accompanied by nearly 500,000 signatures of persons, about 240,000 of whom are Kentuckians, Governor Willson, in his statement, reviewed the history of the case, deploring the crime, and then said:

"The sympathy which makes all the world kin, of every good man and woman, is with the brothers, kinsmen and friends of the victim of the murder. I have not heard nor considered, nor petitioned for, the second time, either of these cases, and have, without exception, required that all of the proceedings should be heard publicly, in the presence of representatives of both sides, so that the people should know everything to which any weight was given for or against the applications, and that all the world should have a chance to judge that the reasons for the decision were just and righteous."

Anonymous, He Thinks. After detailing the political conditions which existed when the murder was committed, he continued:

"I have examined the cases regarding the pardons of Powers and Howard, and I am reverently thankful that I should be the instrument of justice and mercy as God has given me to see my duty and know the right, and I feel that good may come of it, that peace may end these troubles."

"I grant Caleb Powers a full and unconditional pardon for the offense with which he stands accused, a restoration to all his rights and a release from the jail in which he is incarcerated. My reason for granting a pardon is that I am firmly convinced that he is beyond all reasonable doubt, innocent of the crime charged against him, and that any further prosecution against him for the crime so charged would be a great wrong and against the peace and well-being of the Commonwealth."

Youtsey Fired Shot. "In the trial of Youtsey, the State contended earnestly for a verdict that he fired the fatal shot. My reading of the testimony leaves no doubt that this charge was conclusively proved. At the end of his trial Youtsey accepted a life sentence, and decided not to appeal."

"There is very little hope of ever having a jury trial of this case in Kentucky without political questions unpurposed to the minds of the jury, the counsel and the judge. Because of this and the unequal struggle of the defendant, with no means except those given him, against the whole power of the Commonwealth, I feel it a plain duty to end this futile struggle, the anxiety, distress and waste of time, money and care, and to take away from both parties the bone of contention and do all I can to restore peace to the State."

For these reasons, I pardon Caleb Powers and order his immediate release from the Scott county jail, at Georgetown, this June 13, 1908."

Howard Pardoned. Governor Willson also grants a pardon to James B. Howard upon the indictment pending against him in the Franklin county court, charging subornation of perjury. The Governor's reason for the pardon of James B. Howard and the restoration of Howard to all the rights of citizenship is that a careful examination of all the evidence and proceedings of the trial satisfied him beyond all doubt that Howard had nothing whatever to do with the murder of William Goebel, but that Youtsey, as set forth in the reasons for the Powers pardon, formed the plan, which was carried out for the murder of Goebel.

Powers' Long Fight. The campaign that ended in the defeat of Goebel at the polls, the struggle incident to his legislative career, whereby he obtained the governorship from Tay-

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BOND ISSUE IS AGAIN VETOED

Mayor Disapproves Ordinance Looking to Establishment of Electric Light Plant.

ACTION CAUSES GREAT SURPRISE

Effort Will Be Made to Pass Measure Over Veto—Reasons for Adverse Decision Not Made Public Yet. Other Ordinances.

FOR a second time the ordinance authorizing the issue and providing for the redemption of \$350,000 in bonds for the establishment and equipment of an electric light and power plant at the Old Pump-House and for increasing the pumping facilities of the Water Works, has passed both branches of Council, only to be vetoed by the Mayor. The measure was returned to City Clerk Ben T. August yesterday afternoon without the approval of the executive. As usual, the Mayor's reasons for not passing favorably upon the ordinance were sealed, and will not be made known until after they have been considered by the Council.

Unmet Great Surprise. When the question was first submitted to the Mayor some weeks ago, the proposition was to allow the people to vote on the issue. Among the reasons the Mayor gave for not declaring that as in such elections the requirements provide that the majority of all the qualified voters must be in favor of the measure, pressure would probably be brought to bear to keep the voters away from the polls. Furthermore, he found defects in the plan. The Council, he said, had the right to issue the bonds without holding an election.

Accordingly the plan was redrafted according to the suggestions made by the Mayor, but this has now also been rejected by him.

His action in the matter yesterday was a great surprise to every one, as it was thought that the measure as amended would be passed. The Mayor's action was almost entirely in accordance with his views. That the Council will now try to carry the ordinance over the Mayor's veto is at present uncertain. The measure went through by a large majority, and if the same members stand by it they can pass it by a two-thirds vote. Otherwise, the measure will be defeated.

An ordinance to reorganize the city limits by the Richmond Passenger and Freight Company, the ordinance had reference to the change of certain streets.

An ordinance to grant to Messrs. C. W. Griffin and Sons permission to build a two-story store on the south side of Green Street, between Linden and Cherry Streets.

An ordinance to establish the grades of the streets in the annexed territory.

Ordinances Approved. The following ordinances and resolutions approved:

To authorize the Committee on Streets to grant permission for the erection of signs in the city.

Granting the use of the sewer on the Boulevard to Mr. C. H. Archer and Dr. M. D. Hoge.

Fixing the number and compensation of the employees in the general office of the city.

Fixing the salary of the fumigator of the Health Department at \$900 per annum.

Authorizing a large number of improvements in the annexed territory, such as the construction of sewers and the grading of the streets.

Appropriating the sum of \$300 for the purpose of fitting up and equipping of a court-room and offices for the city.

Appropriating \$1,500 for repairs to the armory of the Seventeenth Regiment.

Refunding taxes to the amount of \$413.23 to R. E. Lee Camp, Confederate Veterans.

Refunding the payment of the claim against the city of the Southern Stove Works, amounting to \$744.23.

To repeal the resolution assigning room No. 15, on the fourth floor of the City Hall, to the Richmond Bar Association.

Assigning rooms Nos. 14 and 15, on the fourth floor of the City Hall, for the use of the new civil court.

Establishing the present building line on the north side of Williamsburg Avenue, between Louisiana and Orleans Streets.

JIMMY BARRY A BENEDICT

Noted Football Player Supplies His Own Food.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NORFOLK, VA., June 13.—James Edward Barry, of Norfolk, the modest but powerful and footed right end of the Virginia football team, who never stopped fighting on the gridiron until the referee's whistle brought an end to the game, has met his Waterloo, and at last is captive. Little Dan Cupid is the captor, and the arrow which pierced the football star was shot by Miss Cecile Griggs, of this city.

The culmination of the romance, of which the varsity football star was one of the principals, occurred to-day, when Mr. Barry and Miss Griggs were married by Rev. Dr. J. B. McCall, the groom's brother, and Miss Lucille Childers. The announcement of the marriage of Mr. Barry and Miss Griggs will be a surprise in Norfolk to-morrow. There was not even a whisper of it outside a few intimate friends of the bride and groom. They only knew the plans, and they were pledged to secrecy.

Large Residence Plant Burns. PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 13.—The extensive plant of the American and British manufacturing company for the city was destroyed by a fire early to-day, and caused a loss estimated at over \$150,000. The fire threw out of employment more than five hundred persons.

WEATHER. Occasional Showers.

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HOLE IN HER SIDE, BUT ABLE TO FIGHT

Whitehead Torpedo Driven Into Florida, But Pumps Keep Her Afloat.

NAVAL OFFICIALS THINK TEST SUCCESS

Admit That Damage Is Very Serious, But Declare It Is Not Vital, and That Battleship Could Keep on Fighting.

PORT MONROE, VA., June 13.—Pilot was an American Whitehead torpedo, carrying a charge of gunpowder, which tore a big hole in her side, the United States monitor Florida now rests in the dry dock at the Norfolk Navy Yard, a victim of a naval experiment to test the vulnerability from torpedo attack of water-tight bulkheads. The water in the vessel's hold gives her a list of seventeen inches to starboard.

Florida was struck this morning off Pine Beach, near the Jamestown Exposition Grounds, where the monitor was anchored in fifteen feet of water. The naval officials, while admitting the damage done to the vessel is very serious, declare the ship is still vital, and say that the test is satisfactory. They assert that a battleship equipped with bulkheads similar to those tested to-day could continue fighting, if injured to the same extent, unless several compartments of the same side were similarly punctured, and the weather conditions were bad.

Officials Witness Test. Thorough examination will be necessary before the air cast damage to the bulkhead and collateral injuries suffered can be ascertained, and the effect of the torpedo charge properly measured. The test was witnessed by a number of officials, including Secretary of the Navy, Mr. William D. Cresswell, General Meyer and ordnance officers of the navy and army.

The Cabinet officers went to the Norfolk Navy Yard after the test. Messrs. McCall and Meyer made an inspection of the yard, and Secretary Taft awaited them on the yacht Mayflower. They left for Washington this evening, and will arrive there probably to-morrow morning.

The arrangements for the test were made by the navy, and an apparent hitch. Admiral Mason and other officials from Washington boarded the Florida before 8 o'clock and gave the final orders for conducting the test. On board the float anchored 300 feet away, from which the torpedo was dispatched, the crew were ready for their work. Directions to fire were given from the monitor about twenty minutes after 8 o'clock, and five minutes later Lieutenant Babcock, aboard the float, touched the lever which sent the torpedo whizzing six feet below the water on its mission of destruction. A roar accompanied the explosion.

Present Grand Spectacle.

The spectacle which followed was grand. The great mass of water carried into the air cast shadows for some distance around. The column exceeded in height the high mast of the Florida. Almost simultaneously there was a shower of pieces of steel fragments of broken torpedo, accompanied by dust, which scattered for fully a third of a mile around. There was a scamp for shelter by persons on half a dozen vessels in the vicinity.

A dummy figure of a man had been erected on a bridge of the Florida, and the torpedo, which had broken through the armor plate, struck the point of torpedo impact, the shock knocked it over. The dozen or more officials and crew inside the superstructure of the vessel waited for a few moments before venturing out on the deck and examining the damage. They found that on and above the deck the damage was confined to bending some of the frame work which supported the booms holding the torpedo nets, the breaking of several plates, the breaking of iron guy ropes and the breaking of three booms from their fastenings, leaving a net used for protecting the latter part of the hull drop into the sea.

Penetrates Six Feet.

When she was struck the Florida had about four feet of freeboard, and was anchored in about fifteen feet of water. A collision mat put against the hole made by the torpedo kept the water out while the pumps were working. By direction of Secretary McCall, visiting newspaper men were allowed aboard the Florida after the test, and were taken down in the boiler and engine room just aft of the compartment into which the torpedo was sent. In the boiler room the men found that there was no damage. The injury done was largely to the compartment fired into, and also just forward of that compartment. It was estimated that the charge penetrated six or eight feet.

During the test steam was kept up in one of the boilers on the vessel, but for precautionary reasons was shut off in the pipes. None of the pipes, so far as was apparent from hasty examination, suffered injury.

The twelve-inch turret so badly shattered two weeks ago by a testing shell had been covered with canvas to hide the damage then done.

Splendid weather and good sea conditions favored the test. There was scarcely a ripple to disturb the water. Transformed from a seaworthy vessel to a helpless hulk, several months' work will be necessary to again permit the Florida to be used.

The object sought in the test was to determine whether this special form of bulkhead with which, if formidable, all modern American ships of war probably will be provided can successfully withstand the force of the explosive contained in the torpedo, or in default of that, whether the effect of the charge will be to scatter destruction far and wide and possibly sink the ship.

To-day's test with the Florida was the first experiment of the kind in the American navy.

Results obtained from to-day's experiment will be a guide for construction officials in building water-tight compartment bulkheads of the new Dreadnaughts, North Dakota and Delaware, now partially completed, and of

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Bryan Looming Figure in Chicago Convention

Which Will Name Taft

Democratic Leader More in the Consciousness of Men Who Are Doing Things Than Man Who Is to Be Nominated.

BATTLEGROUND OF CAMPAIGN TO BE IN MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

There Taft Won His Nomination, and There Bryan Got His Greatest Vote in 1896—Strong Effort to Get Dolliver as the Secretary's Running Mate.

BY WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE.

(Special Correspondent of The Times-Dispatch. Copyright, 1908.)

CHICAGO, ILL., June 13.—In a convention which in its preliminary manoeuvres seems to be entirely without episode, the looming figure on the horizon is not the presidential candidate of the party about to name a ticket, but instead the looming figure is Bryan. He is in the consciousness of the men who are doing things here at Chicago more than Taft is. For Taft is a known quantity. Bryan is uncertain, unmeasured in relation to this campaign, and ominous. The platform contest, which seems to be rather tame, is only of interest as it affects or is affected by Bryan.

The vice-presidential contest is directly focused on Bryan, and the feeling, which seems to have been sent out from Washington without Mr. Taft's consent, that Cortelyou would please the administration, has been overcome by the fear of Bryan. For as it becomes certain that Taft will be the nominee, the party managers are squarely face to face with the fact that Taft and Bryan must fight in the same territory. The battleground of this presidential contest obviously is in the Mississippi Valley. There Taft won his nomination. There in 1896 Bryan polled his greatest vote. A change of less than 500,000 votes will take much of this territory from the place where McKinley found it twelve years ago, and gave it to Bryan. This, of course, is not figuring on the Roosevelt majority, nor on the majorities McKinley won with Roosevelt on the ticket, but it is the situation that faced the party when the radical Bryan was defeated by the conservative McKinley.

BRYAN LOOMS UP BIG.

And to-day the candidacy of Taft is not a rabble-rousing candidacy. It appeals more to reason than emotion, and Bryan is still a radical. Bryan has begun to loom big and significant in this convention. The fear of him may control more votes in Chicago than Bryan himself will control on the first ballot in Denver. Those who know say that the administration has given up the Cortelyou idea for Vice-President. Certainly, the Tafts—Henry W. Taft, of New York, who came here to-day, and Charles P. Taft, who has been here for several days—do not glow when Cortelyou is mentioned, and it is likely that there may be some truth in the rumor that Senator Borah, of Idaho, who is strong with the White House, has been sent on a mission from Washington to Fort Dodge, Iowa, to persuade Senator Dolliver to allow the use of his name. There is politics as well as strong personal inclination in Senator Dolliver's inclination to run for the vice-presidency. In the first place, removing Dolliver from the Senate, and nothing could prevent Cummings from succeeding Dolliver; and Aldrich and the Senate control regard Cummings as a Populist. Moreover, with Cummings in the Senate, and Allison in his eighties, Iowa would send another conservative Senator to Washington within a decade. And with Iowa lined up with a progressive Senator from Nebraska and Wisconsin, and the North and Western States, the Senate might pass from New England control. But without Dolliver or some Western man on the ticket, Bryan begins to loom, and probably the forces that control politics from Wall Street would rather have Cummings and a few Senators of his kind than men whom the Democrats might send.

DEMOCRATIC VICTORY TOO IMMINENT.

And Democratic victory in the Mississippi Valley is too imminent to be ignored. The Democrats, for the first time in a generation, are using sense in their politics. They are getting together. In Missouri and Kentucky and the border States all factional differences are healed. In New York the Democrats made it possible for Hughes to pass the race-track gambling bill. In a dozen Middle States old Democratic quarrels are settled, and the Republican leaders, consulting here to-day, are bringing disconcerting rumors of universal Democratic harmony. So even the allies are mellowed. The obvious fact that Taft actually has the Southern delegates—had them honestly and on the merits of each case, and the contests were trumped up in the hope of controlling the National Committee and seating anti-Taft men—has soaked deeply into the minds of the delegates opposed to Taft. Therefore, to-day they are merging themselves into the whole Republican program. It seems unlikely that presidential lines will control the voting on any important project when the convention meets. The allies and the Taft men will vote on the platform and on the matter of a Vice-President as wisdom appeals to each delegate. And the fear of Bryan is the beginning of wisdom.

EVERY DECISION OF COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ON ITS MERITS

BY WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE.

CHICAGO, ILL., June 13.—The committee working on the credentials to the national convention has not had a roll call, and the delegates have not yet been seated. The roll call came from the roll call of the allies, the gentlemen opposing the nomination of Taft. Yet every case so far decided has been decided entirely for Taft or has been decided for a compromise giving him, at least, half the delegates.

If there is anything seriously wrong with the decisions of the committee they would demand a roll call. But in the nature of things there is nothing seriously wrong. Men do not get into prominence enough at home to be made national committeemen who are not essentially men at bottom honest men, and the average man sitting in a national committee is pretty much like the average man sitting in a lodge meeting, or in a director's meeting at a bank, sees the merits of it. The thing which those in the lobby of the Coliseum, where the national committee will call the steam roller of the Taft machine is really the average judgment of the average American citizen upon the facts presented.

Those on Committee. On the committee listening to the evidence are former Governor Warrick, of Ohio; Frank B. Kellogg, of Minnesota; Senators Lodge and Crane, of Iowa; E. H. Hart, of Iowa, and D. W. Mulvane, of Kansas. If anything crooked was going on in that committee meeting hearing they would not only know it, but they would not permit it. They think more of their own reputations than of Taft's nomination. So when day after day Taft wins Southern delegates with those men as judges of the evidence, there is good reason to suppose that the evidence of regularity is with the Taft delegations.

The facts are that the allies in certain instances told men of the South to bring up contesting delegations on the theory that the national committee being against Taft would seat them, and the allies have their strength among those communities of this na-

New York and Pennsylvania are bound boys at this husking. They are not dominant figures. Taft, in this convention, is the candidate of the States that borrow capital, and not of the States that lend it. So typically of that of those who are earning and saving, and the allies have their strength among those communities of this na-

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